

What is claimed is:

1. A method for reducing the level of asparagine in coffee beans, comprising adding an asparagine-reducing enzyme to coffee beans.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said asparagine-reducing enzyme is asparaginase.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of asparagine is reduced by at least about 10%.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said asparagine-reducing enzyme is an enzyme capable of hydrolyzing the amide group of free asparagine.
5. A method for reducing the level of asparagine in coffee beans, comprising:
  - (1) providing coffee beans containing asparagine;
  - (2) optionally pre-treating the coffee beans;
  - (3) adding an asparagine-reducing enzyme to the coffee beans;
  - (4) allowing a sufficient time for the enzyme to react with the asparagine; and
  - (5) optionally deactivating or optionally removing the enzyme.
6. Coffee beans comprising less than about 500 ppm asparagine.
7. Coffee beans comprising less than about 300 ppm asparagine.
8. Coffee beans comprising less than about 200 ppm asparagine.
9. Coffee beans comprising less than about 100 ppm asparagine.
10. A method for reducing the level of acrylamide in roasted coffee beans, comprising reducing the level of asparagine in coffee beans.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein reducing the level of acrylamide in the roasted coffee beans comprises adding an asparagine-reducing enzyme to coffee beans.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein said asparagine-reducing enzyme is asparaginase.
13. The method of claim 11, wherein said asparagine-reducing enzyme is an enzyme capable of hydrolyzing the amide group of free asparagine.
14. A method for reducing the level of acrylamide in roasted coffee beans, comprising:
  - (1) providing coffee beans containing asparagine;
  - (2) optionally pre-treating the coffee beans;
  - (3) adding an asparagine-reducing enzyme to the coffee beans;
  - (4) allowing a sufficient time for the enzyme to react with the asparagine;
  - (5) optionally deactivating or optionally removing the enzyme; and
  - (6) roasting the coffee beans to form roasted coffee beans.
15. Coffee beans, wherein the level of asparagine in said coffee beans is reduced by at least about 10%.

16. The coffee beans of claim 15, wherein the level of asparagine in said coffee beans is reduced by at least about 30%.
17. The coffee beans of claim 16, wherein the level of asparagine in said coffee beans is reduced by at least about 50%.
18. The coffee beans of claim 17, wherein the level of asparagine in said coffee beans is reduced by at least about 70%.
19. The coffee beans of claim 18, wherein the level of asparagine in said coffee beans is reduced by at least about 90%.
20. Roasted coffee beans, wherein the level of acrylamide in said roasted coffee beans is reduced by at least about 10%.
21. The roasted coffee beans of claim 20, wherein the level of acrylamide in said roasted coffee beans is reduced by at least about 30%.
22. The roasted coffee beans of claim 21, wherein the level of acrylamide in said roasted coffee beans is reduced by at least about 50%.
23. The roasted coffee beans of claim 22, wherein the level of acrylamide in said roasted coffee beans is reduced by at least about 70%.
24. The roasted coffee beans of claim 23, wherein the level of acrylamide in said roasted coffee beans is reduced by at least about 90%.
25. Roasted coffee beans comprising less than about 160 ppb acrylamide
26. Roasted coffee beans comprising less than about 150 ppb acrylamide
27. Roasted coffee beans comprising less than about 135 ppb acrylamide.
28. Roasted coffee beans comprising less than about 120 ppb acrylamide.
29. Roasted coffee beans comprising less than about 100 ppb acrylamide.
30. Roasted coffee beans comprising less than about 50 ppb acrylamide.
31. Roasted coffee beans comprising less than about 20 ppb acrylamide.
32. Roasted coffee beans comprising less than about 10 ppb acrylamide.
33. A product comprising roasted coffee beans, wherein the level of acrylamide in said product is reduced by at least about 10%.
34. The product of claim 33, wherein the level of acrylamide in said product is reduced by at least about 30%.
35. The product of claim 34, wherein the level of acrylamide in said product is reduced by at least about 50%.
36. The product of claim 35, wherein the level of acrylamide in said product is reduced by at least about 70%.
37. The product of claim 36, wherein the level of acrylamide in said product is reduced by at least about 90%.

38. The product of claim 33, wherein said product is roasted coffee beans.
39. The product of claim 38, wherein said product is roast and ground coffee.
40. Roast and ground coffee, wherein said roast and ground coffee comprises less than about 160 ppb acrylamide.
41. Roast and ground coffee, wherein said roast and ground coffee comprises less than about 150 ppb acrylamide.
42. Roast and ground coffee, wherein said roast and ground coffee comprises less than about 135 ppb acrylamide.
43. Roast and ground coffee, wherein said roast and ground coffee comprises less than about 120 ppb acrylamide.
44. Roast and ground coffee, wherein said roast and ground coffee comprises less than about 100 ppb acrylamide.
45. Roast and ground coffee, wherein said roast and ground coffee comprises less than about 50 ppb acrylamide.
46. Roast and ground coffee, wherein said roast and ground coffee comprises less than about 20 ppb acrylamide.
47. Roast and ground coffee, wherein said roast and ground coffee comprises less than about 10 ppb acrylamide.
48. A roast and ground coffee brew, wherein said roast and ground coffee brew comprises less than about 7 ppb acrylamide.
49. A roast and ground coffee brew, wherein said roast and ground coffee brew comprises less than about 5 ppb acrylamide.
50. An article of commerce comprising:
  - (a) a product comprising roasted coffee beans, wherein said roasted coffee beans have a reduced level of acrylamide;
  - (b) a container for containing the product; and
  - (c) a message associated with the container.wherein said message associated with the container informs the consumer that the product has a reduced level of acrylamide.
51. The article of claim 50, wherein said message informs the consumer that the product is low in acrylamide.
52. An article of commerce comprising:
  - (a) a product comprising coffee beans, wherein said coffee beans have a reduced level of asparagine;
  - (b) a container for containing the product; and
  - (c) a message associated with the container.

wherein said message associated with the container informs the consumer that the coffee beans contain a reduced level of asparagine.

53. The article of claim 52, wherein said message informs the consumer that the coffee beans are low in asparagine.

54. An article of commerce comprising:

- (a) a product comprising roasted coffee beans, wherein said roasted coffee beans have a reduced level of acrylamide;
- (b) a container for containing the product; and
- (c) a message associated with the container.

wherein said message associated with the container informs the consumer that the article of commerce has a reduced level of acrylamide.

55. The article of claim 54, wherein said message informs the consumer that the article of commerce is low in acrylamide.

56. An article of commerce comprising:

- (a) a product comprising coffee beans, wherein said coffee beans have a reduced level of asparagine;
- (b) a container for containing the product; and
- (c) a message associated with the container.

wherein said message associated with the container informs the consumer that the article of commerce contains a reduced level of asparagine.

57. The article of claim 56, wherein said message informs the consumer that the article of commerce is low in asparagine.